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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Confirmation No. 8224

Toru SUZUKI et al.

Docket No. 2001-0554A

Serial No. 09/854,528

Group Art Unit 1731

Filed May 15, 2001

Examiner Christopher Fiorilla

ORIENTED SINTERED CERAMIC PRODUCT AND MANUFACTURING METHOD THEREOF

REQUEST TO WITHDRAW FINALITY OF REJECTION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

Sir:

In the Office Action mailed March 29, 2004, constituting a final rejection, the Examiner states that the new ground of rejection (set forth in item 5 of the Office Action) was necessitated by Applicants' amendment. However, to the contrary, the amendments were presented in response to the objection to claims 1-3 in item 4 of the previous Office Action. These amendments are formal in nature, and did not affect the scope of the claims. Accordingly, the new ground of rejection presented in the recent Office Action was not necessitated by Applicants' amendment. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the finality of the rejection be withdrawn.

Respectfully submitted,

Toru SUZUKI et al.

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